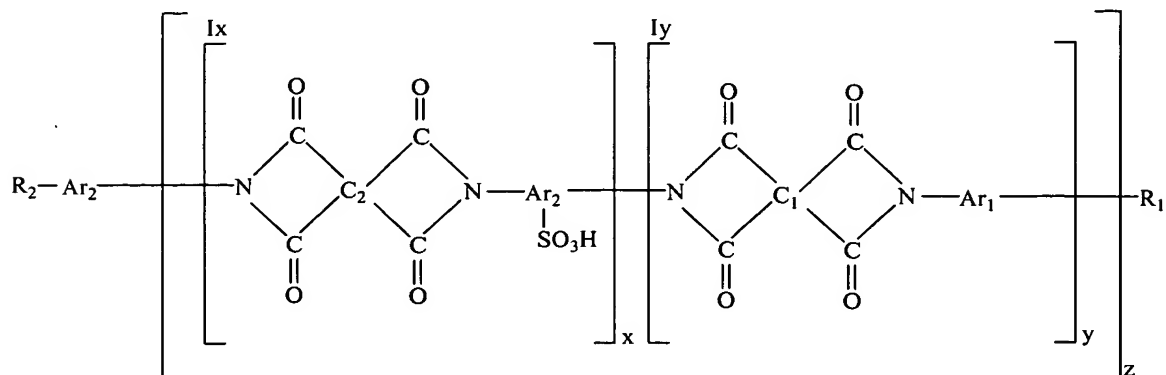


ABSTRACT

The invention relates to block polymers of sulfonated polyimides of formula (I):



The block sulfonated polyimides of formula (I) have an excellent lifespan when used as ion-exchange membranes in fuel cells. In particular, the block sulfonated polyimides of formula (I) are useful in solid electrolyte fuel cell battery devices. Such devices have applicability in electric vehicles.

DISCUSSION OF THE AMENDMENTS

The Abstract has been amended to one paragraph with less than 150 words.

Claims 1, 5, 8-10, 17, 20, 21, and 28 are currently amended.

Claims 2, 11-16 and 19 are original.

Claims 3, 6, 7, 18 and 22-27 were previously presented.

Claim 4 is canceled.

Claims 29 and 30 are new.

The amendments to Claims 1, 5 and 20 are supported by original Claim 4. The amendments to Claims 8-10, 20 and 21 were to clarify claim language and to correct minor typographical errors. The amendments to 17 and 28 were made to correct antecedent basis.

No new matter is believed to have been added.

Upon entry of the amendment Claims 1-3 and 5-30 will be active.

A clean version of the Abstract is given on page 14.